GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

Old Sectt. H-28, New Sectt. II-16—
71,006—28-1-55.

Health (1955) Department.

Put Away

~~Endorsement~~
~~D.O.~~
~~Memorandum~~
~~Lodged~~

No. 21-1645-55-2 Health

Dated 7/7/1955.

FURTHER PAPERS.

Department.	Number.	Series.	Date.
Medical Institutions - Govt Hospital Pentlam - Dr. E A Krishna-Murthy. Asst Surgeon - Report against.			

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
MADRAS

K. VENKATARAMANA GOWDA M.L.A.
ADVOCATE
PUTTUR, S. KANARA

DATE 12 - 3 1955.

J.S. H.E. + L.A
call for a report.
MASCLEW
14/3

To,

The Hon'ble Sri. A.B. Shetty, M.L.A
Minister for Health,
Government of Madras.

JOINT SECRETARY TO GOVT.
26376
15 MAR 1955
HEALTH, EDUCATION AND LOCAL ADMIN. DEPT.

My Dear Sri Shetty,

Allegations against the Assistant Surgeon Dr. Krishnamurthi in charge of Government Hospital, Puttur, South Kanara, have been brought to notice by the public so much so, serious dissatisfaction is being expressed in regard to his attention to patients. A serious instance of the kind has been published in one of the local papers Copy of which is enclosed. It is, therefore, highly desirable to shift him

E 5 | 4/3

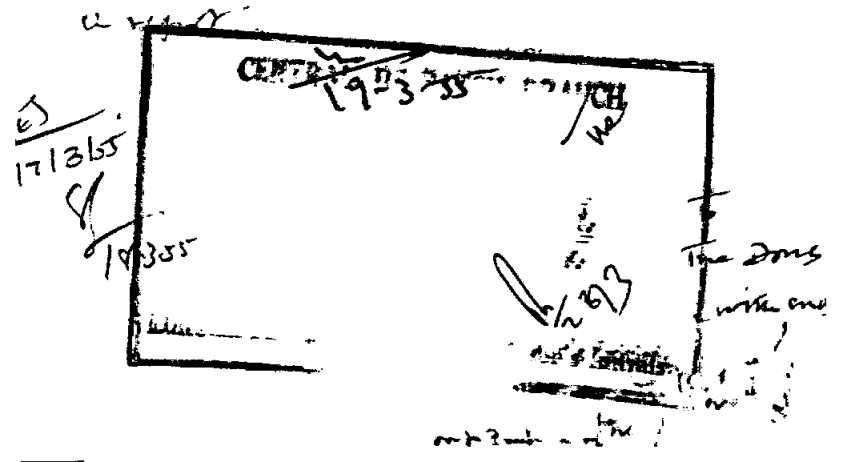
over his present post and transfer to this place somebody who will be interested in the public I hope you will take immediate steps in the matter

Yours Sincerely,
M. L. A.

(17/1/55)

Endt No 26376 17/1/55-1 Health 9/1/55

Referred to the Dy. Dir. for



5/

CONFIDENTIAL: MEDICAL DEPARTMENT

From

Lt. Col. Sangham Lal, MBBS. FRCS. DOMS. (Lond.),
Director of Medical Services, Madras.6.

To

The Secretary to Government, Health, Education and Local Administration Department, Madras.

In.R.No. 26738-H1/55 dated 6-6-1955.

Sub: Medical Institution - Government Hospital, Puttur - Dr. T.A. Krishnamurthy, Assistant Surgeon - Report Against.

Ref: Government Endt.No. 26376-HI/55-1 H dated 19-3-1955.

I have to state that a copy of the letter dated 12-3-1955 of Sri K. Venkataramana Gowda, M.L.A., Puttur forwarded with the Government Endt cited, together with its enclosure was communicated to the District Medical Officer, South Kanara for enquiry and report. The District Medical Officer, South Kanara who conducted an enquiry into the matter has reported that Dr. T.A. Krishnamurthy, Assistant Surgeon, Government Hospital, Puttur has missed the diagnosis of fracture of fibula lower 1/3 right side and that the Doctor thought the patient Veerappa Gowda was making much ado about nothing especially when he was able to stand on his legs. The District Medical Officer considers that this is not a case of negligence but missing the diagnosis. A *copy of letter No. 4299/55 dated 4-4-1955 received from the District Medical Officer, South Kanara together with its enclosures is enclosed for the information of Government.

I have examined the explanation given by the Assistant Surgeon in detail and I am of the opinion that if the Assistant Surgeon had made a thorough examination of the patient he could have arrived at the correct diagnosis. Apart from this there has been no dereliction of duty on the part of the Assistant Surgeon. However, I have warned the Assistant Surgeon to be careful in the examination of patients and not to give room for such complaints in future. In the circumstances I consider that no further action is called for in the matter.

The enclosure received with the Government Memo is returned herewith.

Yours faithfully,

Director of Medical Services.

MCR/7.6.
(Encl: 2 Pages)

*Copy of letter:

On receipt of the complaint from the public, I went to Puttur on 11-3-55 and held an enquiry and examined all the witnesses and the complainants.

The Medical Officer, Dr. T.A. Krishnamurthy admits that he has missed the diagnosis of fracture of fibula lower 1/3 right side. The patient Veerappa Gowda was brought to the hospital on a previous occasion also after an assault when the injuries were trivial. The doctor seems to have missed the diagnosis and thought Veerappa Gowda was making much ado about nothing especially when he was able to stand on his legs. I do not think this is a case of negligence but missing the diagnosis. A lenient view may be taken in the matter.

P.T.O.

An English translation of the report in the Kanarese daily is enclosed.

/TRUE COPY/

for Director of Medical Services.

different opinions.

Is this sort of Hospitals necessary?

If you just think of anincident that took place during the last week at Puttur hospital, a doubut as to whether the Government Hospitals exist for the benefit of the public or for the conveniences of the hospital doctor, may arise among some of you.

What had taken place is as follows: On the evening of 19th Veerappa Gowda was well beaten and had been left at the place where he was beaten. Next day at 9 A.M. the persons who saw him and took pity brought him to hospital. Hospital doctor examined the wounded. Legs were wounded. One bone of the leg was broken. He was beat on the right side of the eye, forehead and head. He was crying ~~bailing~~ out with pain. Hospital doctor examined a little and after tying the wounds with cloth asked him to go out of the hospital. He said that if is against the rules to keep the patient in who is so well. He never agreed to keep him in. He said that he (patient) can go walking. He did not hear when the patient said that he cannot go. The patient was on the verandha. Doctor threatened personally and through others, that the patient would be necked out and a case will be launched against him if he refuses to go out of the hospital. The patient who was lying on the outer verandah of the hospital was brought to Mangalore by a car. When examined by X-Ray it was found out that a bone was broken. He was admitted ~~has been kept~~ in the Wallock Hospital. The doctor there did not neck the patient out saying that he is well and quite able to go by walking. It is clear that the Mangalore doctor has no experience of the rules as much as the doctor at Puttur knows.

It has to be said that the doctor, who had told that a broken bone was not broken and he could go walking by that leg, has no knowledge whatsoever of the Medical Science. If it is said so, it is a disgrace to his hard earned degree. If this is not the thing there must be some other reason. It is not difficult too, to know the reason. The person whose leg was broken is at Govt. Hospital, Puttur. The case is in the hands of police. The doctor at present is living at the Hospital. If the cause of this kind of incidents are not

found and the accused punished, it is not the same if there

are or not of hospitals exist or not.

" Defect of Letter".

Done translation

K. S. Kesava

6/4/53

District Medical Officer,
South Kanara, Mangalore.

From:- The Undersigned Public,
Puttur & Balnad Village,
P U T T U R. S.Kanara.

To
The District Medical Officer,
South Kanara, M A N G A L O R E.

02769

Puttur. Dated 28th Feb.'55.

Sir,

Subject:- Malpractice & indefference by Medical Officers at Government Hospital, Puttur - brought to notice - necessary disciplinary action after due enquiry requested for.

****

As civilised men of Free India, we feel it our duty to bring to the kind notice of the Authority the following facts and incidents for favour of due enquiry and necessary action with public interest and human welfare:

Fix date for enquiry & inform Mr. Nellithaya & Petitioners. Take Police. BS. NS.

On 19-2-55 Saturday at about 4.30 P.M. one Veerappa Gowda aged about 45, a chalgeni tenent of Balehithlu in Balnad Village close to Puttur Town, was manhandled, beaten and knocked down by some miscreants beside the foot path near his house. The said Veerappa Gowda comes of a very poor family having a wife and two small children depending on him. His lonlyness in his family and having no others to defend himself at the encounter, he could do nothing before the fearful miscreants and consequently lay unconcious at the wayside. The offenders had disappeared from the scene of occurance. There was none even to inform his family of the unhappy incident. Veerappa was in a precarious and petiable condition for a long time even after nightfall.

One Sri B.S.Nellithaya, a land lord of the same village, happened to return home from Puttur Town late in the night by the same foot path. To his surprise he heard the groning of the helpless Veerappa whom he could recognise at sight. Having been much moved at the petiable and sad plight of the poor man, Sri Nellithaya had the courtsey to call his tenents and arrange to carry him to his house at about midnight and do the needful to the ailing for the time being He had also informed the Puttur Police Station House of the incident the same night and the Police informed him to arrange for taking him to the Government Hospital at the earliest opportunity.

Early the next morning (20-2-55 Sunday) the patient being unable even to stand up, was carried to Puttur Hospital at about 6.30 A.M. and after due information to the Station, the Sub Inspector was pleased to attend the Hospital at the time with Sri Nellithaya. Sri Nellithaya informed the Medical Officer at his residence of the incident and requested him to attend to the patient. The Medical Officer came to the Hospital at about 7.30 A.M. and feeling the pulse of the patient remarked that there was nothing serious. The patient/

was laid in the open portico of the Hospital was asked to be taken to the consulting room where some of his wounds were dressed. The Lady Doctor and the Honourary Doctor too were present at the time. In the mean time Sri Nellithaya had sent away the coolies who had brought the ailing man to the Hospital. By midday the patient was asked to go home informing that the wounds would be healed within a couple of days though the patient could not even stand up by in himself. However the patient was brought to the portico and was laid on ground without the least consideration that he is a living human soul. Sri Nellithaya had requested the Doctors to get him admitted to the Hospital as an inpatient and had gone out. The man was left to his fate there, but the subordinates in the Hospital were repeatedly pressing him to quit the place forthwith. The poor man, helpless as he was, could do nothing but add to his ailings the rude behaviour of the Servants therein.

In the evening Sri Nellithaya, curious to see the patient, went to the Hospital. To his astonishment he could see the patient left on the ground in the portico and his weeping wife was attending to him . Even the Sub Inspector's request to the Doctors to admit him to the Hospital was left unheard. That evening Sri Nellithaya could do nothing but to sympathise with the ailing man. Next morning (Monday, 21-2-55) Sri Nellitaya appeared before the Medical Officer in the Hospital and mad representations to all the Doctors there to admit the man with human sympathy into the Hospital. All his attempts and requests were cry in the wilderness. Though Sri Nellithaya is in no way connected with the patient, he, with human feeling and sympathy, engaged a car and took him to the Police Station Premises and left him there in a private room. A Private Medical Practitioner was consulted and the patient was got examined by him. The doctor treated him and after thorough examination instructed Sri Nellithaya to take him to Mangalore and get proper treatment, besides to have an X-ray photo of the patient in order to ascertain the gravity of the wounds.

With due deference to the instructions of the Private Medical Practitioner, Sri Nellithaya, with human sympathy and petying the condition of the man, took him to Mangalore and got him examined by Dr.K.B.Shetty M.B.B.S. who too arranged for the X-Ray photo forthwith. The photo reveals the fracture in his right leg. Dr. Shetty had had the courtesy to inform of the same to the District Medical Officer who at once had the sympathy to come there and examine the patient. He was also pleased, we learn, to hear the entire story of the patient with relation to the Doctors at the Puttur Hospital from Sri Nellithaya. The patient was next admitted to the Wenlock Hospital, Mangalore as an inpatient for proper treatment.

Under the circumstances it is left to think that the Doctors at Puttur Hospital have been under the evil and malafide influence of the miscreants in connection herewith and that they had acted wantonly in the matter and that they are lacking in human sympathy and proper attegate and feeling. It is a pity that Mother India is continuing in having such brutality even after getting free from foreign yoke and if matters matters are allowed to continue unchecked we should feel that time has not yet come to have fellow feeling and human sympathy even after Freedom. Hence, we earnestly request that the District Medical Officer may be pleased to institute an open enquiry in the matter and actions deemed fit be taken with public interest and equity of justice lest such malpractices should repeat in the future here or elsewhere.

With due regards & respect,

Yours Faithfully,

Puttur & Balnad Public.

Copy submitted to the Honourable Minister for Public Health, Government of Madras for favour of information and necessary action in the matter.

1 (R. KEDAGE) 2 R. Venkatesha Palimaya

3 B. S. Mallikarjuna. 4

5 B. Ramakrishna 6

7 8

9 10 M. Venkatesh Pai

11 12

13 K. Seetharama Rao 14

15 16

17 18 A. Ramachandra Rao

19 20 P. Ramakrishna Bhatta.

21 B. Subraya Holla

22 M. Veerabhadra

E. A. Krishnamoorthy,
B.Sc., M.B.B.S.,
ASSISTANT SURGEON

Station Porto Novo

Date 14.3.35

Dear Sir

As instructed by you I am sending my statement regarding the incidences in reference in his enquiry held by you on the 11th. Pressure of work delayed the writing of this in time and hence could not mail it on Saturday itself. I beg to be excused for the delay.

Yours faithfully

E. A. Krishnamoorthy

14.3.35

Written Statement of Dr. G.A. Krishnamoorthy. Assistant Surgeon, Puttur presented to the District Medical Officer, South Kanara at his Camp at P. on 11.3.55.

(13)

On Sunday the 20th February 1955 I examined one Veerappa Gonda of Bolinadu Village who was brought in by his wife and others for some injuries said to have been due to an assault with hatchi by some persons at about 2 P.m on 19.2.55 There were six injuries on his person (vide wound certificate no. 8/55 dt 26.2.55)

Prompt attention was given as remitted by Sri. Nellithaya himself The contusion around the eye had turned dark and the subconjunctival haemorrhage was limited to a very small area and his edges were yellow. The injury on the scalp also looked a little older. I called in the woman Assistant Surgeon for a second opinion and she too was of the same opinion and accordingly I noted in the accident register that the injuries look older i.e. more than 24 hrs. Proceeding to the injuries on the legs the contusions were confined to the front and Medial aspects only. All movements of the leg and palpation of both tibiae did not elicit any extra pain. The patient was seen to stand by himself before he was helped to the couch. The patient was shouting from the beginning wherever he was touched and it was with difficulty that even the necessary entries in the accident register could be made. I have a previous experience of treating the same patient for injuries sustained in an assault when he was shouting similarly. In case wherein the injuries were superficial abrasions. I could not detect any fracture in the leg. There were no other injuries noted and he also spoke of only these injuries

I do not remember to have seen Sri. Nellithaya that day. I said to the relatives that the patient need not be admitted as all the injuries were simple and that he could attend O.P. daily. The Sub inspector of Police came in just then to know whether the nature of the injuries and I told him that the injuries are simple and that the patient was making a big fuss as was usual with him. I then went away to attend to ward work and the patient was lying in the front Portico like projection in the O.P. block. All was silent after that.

I learnt late in the night while I was in the temple that some people has gone and complained against me to one of the hospital advisory committee members that a serious case had not been admitted in the hospital. The next morning i.e. on the 21st I noticed the patient in the same place in the O.P. block. His wounds were dressed. The Honorary Assistant Surgeon then told that he was met by some people the previous day in connection with that case and narrated all that happened (vide his deposition). When we were talking about the great fuss made about this case the Nursing orderly gave the information that the patient was found walking with the aid of a stick to ease himself in front of the hospital early that morning. This only confirmed our idea that he was only feigning to make a big case out of this. Just then Sri. Nellithaya arrived and asked if the patient could not atleast on humanitarian grounds be admitted. I replied that if Sympathy and other humanitarian considerations governed the admissions there would not be room at all in any hospital and only on that only on those considerations I had allowed the patient to stay in the portico that night

16

I assured him that there was nothing serious about him and that he could very well attend as out-patient. Then he went away after making sure that I would not object to his patient being there in his portico for some time more. When I came in the afternoon I heard that his patient was removed in a car. Two days later we heard that his patient was treated by some body at Puttur and on his advice removed to Bangalore where he was admitted in the hospital.

The originator of his petition Sri. Nellithaya admits that he does not know English and also that many wrong statements have found a place in his body of his petition. The petition itself does not contain any specific allegation beyond the fact of refusal for admission as in-patient. Sri Nellithaya has also spoken to this effect. Patient Veerappa Gowda he can infer, has always been involving himself in such cases of litigation minded and hence knowingly put on an air of being seriously injured which contributed to our wrong conclusion. My examination supported by his facts that 1) that he was able to stand prior to being attended to 2) that he was seen walking the next morning aided by only a stick made me too sure of the simple nature of his injuries.

Dr. Ram Bhat admits that he described the injuries from memory only. He has stated that the contusion on the R. leg was on the lateral side evidently obviously posted with the information of the existence of a fracture as revealed by the skiagram. But he too had not noticed any other injury

I do not claim to be error proof and it is likely that I missed a small fracture especially under the circumstances stated. Unfortunately I was not given an opportunity of examining the patient on the 22nd also and I am sure I would have suspected and myself referred him to the head quarters hospital if his condition of his injuries warranted it an examination nearly 72 hours after the occurrence

Krishnamoorthy

~~21~~ 1/ ~~17~~ (15)

Enquiry held on 11-3-55 re. the allegations against the medical officer Puttur Dr. E.A. Krishnamurthy that a patient with multiple injuries - Veerappa Gowda by name aged about 45 years was not given the proper treatment when he was taken to the Govt. Hospl. Puttur on 20/2/55

Sri. B.S. Nellikaya land lord - income about Rs. 1,500. per year Balnad village about 2 1/2 miles from Puttur.

On 19-2-55 Saturday at about 6.30 P.M. while returning from Puttur by my house in Balnad he saw Veerappa Gowda lying on a Cart in a field & was shouting A little girl about 5 yrs. his daughter was standing by his side Veerappa Gowda asked for help to take him home By the time I could get some help it was about 9 P.M. and with the help of Sri Shediappa Seetha Rama Bhatt, Veerappa Gowda was carried to his house. He was not able to talk properly and ants were on the blood stains on his body. Myself & Sri Seetha Rama Bhatt came to Puttur at about 12 midnight and sought advice at the Police Station as to further Procedure re. breakfast for Veerappa Gowda. The Police advised me to bring Veerappa Gowda to the Govt hospl at Puttur on 20/2/55 (Sunday) at about 6.30 Am ~~Hospl~~ W/ breakfast Veerappa Gowda to the Puttur hospl. Sri Seetharama Bhat, one by name Cudda. Hamothia by name Cudda

And the injured name Shivappa I a relation of Shivappa the wife of Veerappa Gowda Lakshmi. were with me the Veerappa was carried on an improvised stretcher about 7.30 A.M. Dr Krishnamurthy arrived and after feeling the pulse of the injured said that the patient is arrested and there is no need to be alarmed. On hearing this we left Veerappa Gowda in the hospital with his wife and came to Pattan town to have coffee in the meantime we returned to the hospital. At times about 9 to 10 the S.I of Police was there, with us. The doctor was dressing the wounds and after completing the dressings the doctor said that the patient could be taken back home. I did not see the doctor giving any injections on my questioning the doctor about the patient again the doctor said that the patient could be taken home & the patient could walk. As the persons who carried the injured man home left the place already. Veerappa the injured man was carried with the help of one Gudda. the brother of the injured and boy to the police station. This was done on a Gunny cloth. This was about 10.30 A.M on Sunday the 22nd. Feb. The doctor left the P & was not seen by me afterwards later I went to the dispensary of Dr. Narayanacharya

23-(B) 19 (17)

Hony. asst. Surgeon of the Puttur hospl. requested
him twice the 9th. As it was a Sunday
Dr Narayana Rao could not go to the hospl.
However he said that if the Dr. Krishna murthy
was of the opinion that the patient could
be taken away and could take to
I could take the patient back to
Balnad. The patient was left in the
hospl. Puttur till Monday the about
9.30 A.M. on Monday Dr Narayana Rao
came to the hospl. About that time I also
went to the hospl. I requested Dr. Krishna murthy
to admit the patient. Dr. Krishna murthy
said that the injuries on the patient
are trivial & does not require
hospitalization. Dr. Narayana Rao expressed
his inability to do anything in the matter.
On further request also the doctor refused to
admit the patient said that if he were
to admit such simple cases, Puttur
will require many hospitals and that
he has to observe the instructions of the
D.H.O. that only deserving cases have to
be admitted into the hospital. I asked
the doctor for further treatment to the
patient. As the O/P ticket issued on
25/2 was not available a fresh
ticket was given by the doctor with the
treatment he considered necessary
for the injured

I wanted some time before I could remove the patient and the murder weapon from the patient and kept it in the police. About 11.30 on 21/2 I removed the patient in a car to the dispensary & Dr. Ramakrishna Rao came there till 2:15 on 21/2 Dr. K. Shivamanna Bhat also saw the case. Both doctors were of the opinion that Veerappa has sustained a fracture & advised me to remove him to Mangalore for the necessary investigation & treatment. I removed the injured in a car to Mangalore & had him x-Rayed. The x-ray showed a fracture of the right tibia and the patient was admitted in the Govt. Hospital Mangalore

Q. How are you acquainted with Veerappa

A. He is my neighbour in my village.

Q. He is a car driver What is his work

A. He is a Cultivator

Q. On many 3 or 4 occasions Veerappa was beaten by some party. Do you know whether Veerappa was beaten by a party of men on 3 or 4 occasions? and where did he go to get his wounds treated on those occasions.

A. On 3 or 4 occasions Veerappa was assaulted by parties. He was getting treatment at Bajpe Hospital for which place he had to go

~~25~~ 21 ~~19~~ (19)

Q. Did you enquire on previous occasions as to where Veerappa got treatment.

A. No

Q by Dr. Do you know English & do you know the contents of the petition.

A I do not know English. I gave the version in Kannada. It was translated into English.

Q by Dr: Did you come to my house on 20/2 (Sunday) to call me to attend on the Patient

A. I did not go to the house of the doctor on 20/2 to call him to attend to the hospl.

Q. In the Petition it is written that you went to the house of the doctor to call him on 20/2.

A I say that portion of the petition is wrong. ie. "Sri Nelli Raya informed the medical officer at his residence of the accident & requested him to attend to the Patient

Q You have stated in the Petition that on 20/2. the Lady doctor & the Honorary doctor too were present. ie "the Lady doctor & the honorary doctor were present at that time on 20/2.

A Dr. Hony. doctor was not present in the hospl. on 20/2. so that portion of the Petition is also wrong

Q. Did you yourself asked me to admit Veerappa into the hospl. - on Sunday 20/2 in the hospl

A Yes

~~16~~ ~~6~~

X. What was I doing when you the S. I arrived at the hospl ' about 9:30 Hrs on Sunday 26/2

H. You were in the dressing room dressing the Patient

Q. Did the S. I. speak to me and in what language

A. Yes. in English.

Q. I could see you talk but could not hear and even if I hear I could not understand.

Q. Do you know whether the S. I. asked me to admit Veeraffa.

A I do not know

Q. When the S. I 's request to the doctors to admit him to the hospl. was left unheard How do you know this, since you do not know English

H. I came to know this subsequently from the S

Q. Were there others whole myself + S. I. were talking

A. There were others + one of them was Excise Sub Inspector (Achuthan) There were no doctors.

Q. ~~You~~ The statement " When the S. I 's request the doctors to admit him to the hospl. was left unheard" is wrong since you said that there were myself + no doctors when the S. I. were talking.

A. Yes.

Q. On monday 21/2. When did you come to meet the twelve more in me

H. At about 7.30 Hrs Yourself Dr. Ramayanakar and another woman Nurse + the Patients

Q. Did you ~~not~~ tell you ~~that~~ he may kept somewhere in Puttur taken as ~~of~~ daily (21)

A You said that the Patient can be taken home if he comes to the hospl he will be given Medicine

Q. ~~He~~ Was the Patient given Medicines

A. Yes

Q. From the hospl. to what place did you take the Pt

A To Dr. Ram Bhatt's dispensary from there he was put in Dr. Thimmana Bhatt's room

Q. How far is this room from the Police station

A. About 25 mts

Q. How did you take him to the Police station

A. no

Q. Engaged a car & took him to the Police station ~~Yourself~~ & left him there in a private room" This statement in the Petition is wrong.

A Yes

Q When did you take the Pt to manpalare

A on ~~the~~ Tuesday 22/2 at about 12 noon

Q. Did you take the Pt. to the hospl. on Tuesday (22/2) Forenoon

A no — to Dr. Ram Bhatt's was treating the Pt

Q. Under the circumstances it is left to think that Doctors at Puttur hospl. have been under the evil and Malafide influence of the miscreants in Connection herewith and that they have acted wantonly in the matter and that they are lacking in human sympathy and proper adequate feeling Have you any other evidence for this statement

28 (8)

A. For this statement I have no evidence except the refusal for admission of Veerappa

Q Name who wrote the Petition

A. Sri S.K. Bhatt on my instruction.

Q Name who collected the signatures to the petition.

Q. A The other signatories I have seen the Patients after I told them the incident. of the hospital. Dr. came to know about the incident only after related the whole affair. or similar

Sri Ram Bhat. — Cook — Rs. 15. a month.
Balanad. here

The injured Veerappa is a neighbour. the I heard he was injured & taken to Puttur about 9.30 Am I came to Puttur on 21/2 (Monday) here Veerappa. I saw him lying under the Portico — the hospital. I was told by Dr Nellithaya that the doctor refused to admit Veerappa & that he would take him to Mangalore for admission Then I went away A few days afterwards I was asked to sign a Petition mentioning about the non-admittance of Veerappa and I signed I knew only what others said & not what I actually found out

(P) 24 25

Q. to Dr. Do you know when he was removed from Puttur hospl. when he was taken to (23) Mangalore whether he was treated anywhere else

A. I heard that on monday (21/2) evening Veerappa was removed to mangalore.

ಡಾ ಎಸ್ ಎಸ್ ಕಾಮತ್

Sri. P. Ramakrishna Bhatta. Cultivation- Rs. 10,000 per year.
Son of Shedigappa Sakarama Bhatta

I belong to Padnoor village near Puttur.
On monday 21/2 while coming to Puttur I was told that a certain person was assaulted at Balnad village and was taken to the hospl by my father & Sri Nellikaya for treatment. I was worried about my father as he had many enemies at Balnad I went to the hospl. I saw Pl. lying near the portico of the hospl. I recognised him as Veerappa Gowda I heard that my father had no connection with the assault of Veerapp. Then I left the hospl. I attended to work at Puttur & returned home the same evening. I heard on Tuesday (22/2) that Veerappa was carried to mangalore. I signed the petition after hearing that that Veerappa was admitted into the hospl. at mangalore.

Q. to Dr. Do you know on what date you signed the Petition

A. Probably after a week after the I recd. the news.

Q. to Dr. You have not taken care to verify all the statements in the Petition & you have signed the petition because Veerappa

(10)

was not admitted into the hospl. is that so.

A 4/5 P Ramakrishna Shetta.

Sri. Kunhappa Gowda. — Bannoor village — 3mls. from Puttur.
Cultivation — Rs. 30/- per month.

I am ~~one of the brother~~ his sister's husband
I heard that Veerappa was assaulted &
(on 22nd) I found
he came to Puttur & saw him on 21/2
him lying ~~under~~ the Portico. He was removed
to Dr. Ram Bhatt's dispensary on Monday.
and to mangalore on 22/2 (Tuesday) I
accompanied him to mangalore
I signed the petition after 4 or 5 days. ~~of~~ the
remarks of my brother in-law to mangalore
I do not know what is contained in the
petition Sri Nellothaya asked me to sign
& I signed ~~ಸಹಿ ಮಾಡಿದೆನು~~

Sri. Bejone D'Souza. Mudalaje village - 1½ mls from
Puttur - agriculture. Rs. 25/- per month.
I came to Puttur on Monday (21/2) for the shandy
I heard that Veerappa was ~~assaulted~~ injured. I went to the
hospl. saw Veerappa lying in the Portico. Sri
Nellothaya & Sri Seetharama Shet were there. I am
one of the petitioners. After about 5 days I signed the petition
on the request of Sri. Nellothaya who said that
the petition is about the refusal for admission
of Veerappa in Puttur hospl. ~~&~~ who was later admitted
at Mangalore. Bejone D'Souza

(11) 5 ✗ 2

Dr. B. Ramabhat - Med. Practitioner Puttur Exmn 4 yrs (25)

I am practising.

On 21/2 (Monday) at about 11.30 A.M. Veerappa Gowda was brought home c multiple injuries which were dressed according to the statement of Pw1 — the Govt. Hospl Puttur I examined Pw1. There was a wound on the scalp. Reduced. There was a superficial wound of the Rt. leg c contusion A similar wound on the left leg same position An abrasion of the left Mid finger I gave him an injection of Inj caine Penicillin 4 lakhs. + Cibazol 1 tablet tds I suspected a fracture of the fibula on the right side and required an xray to do the proper treatment. The patient was removed to Mangalore next morning at about 10 30 Am I heard that he was admitted into the Wenlock hospl I signed the petition because I treated the Patient and have no personal knowledge of the refusal to admit the patient — the Govt. Hospl.

Q by B Do you keep a record of the injuries

A Yes Sometimes I keep a record.

Q. by Court The description of the injuries given is from memory?

A — Yes

Q. by Court Did you suspect a fracture on the 1st day

Yes on the very 1st day I suspected a fracture

Q. Did you direct the Pt. on the next morning to the hospl. with the information that you suspect a fracture

A. I suspected a fracture & wanted an x-Ray

Ramakrishna

Dr. V. Laxminarayana Rao Hony. Asst. Medical Officer
Govt Hospl. Puttur

On Sunday (20/2) morning at about 12 midday one Sri. Seetharama Bhat & another whom I do not know met me Sri Seetharama Bhat asked me as to whether I am the Asst. Doctor who was in the hospl. that morning when one Pt. c multiple injuries was brought. I denied any knowledge. From them I understood that a certain person who was assaulted was not admitted into the hospl. I was asked to advise the Medical Officer Govt. hospl. to admit the case into the hospl. I refused to interfere as I was not interested in Police cases next day monday (21/2) I was met by the other person (whom I do not know) in my dispensary & also in the hospl. when I was seated before Dr. Krishnamurthy the other person enquired the doctor about the admission of the patient & the doctor said that admissions if made on sympathetic grounds will go to fill up the hospital beds He prescribed sulphanilamide tablets Sajjakara diuretic mixture & asked him to take the patient to the next day to the Govt. hospl.

(13) 27 207

Since the patient was not a victim that other man went away I did not (27) examine the Patient. I took his temp. it was normal. I did not feel his pulse

Qn by Dr. Was this injured person brought to the hosp before for some injuries

A Yes.

Qn by Dr. Was he brought to the hosp. for assault even during the time of my Predecessor.

A. Yes. he was brought to the hospl during the time of your Predecessor

V. Lakshmanayya Dow

Sri P. Krishna Bhat. owner of a coffee hotel Puttur

Income about Rs. 200/.

I heard that some person was injured & brought to the hospital. He left his hotel to see the Person. He saw & came back. Later a Petition was brought to him & he signed not knowing the details of the Petition. P Krishna Bhat

Dr. L.A. Krishnamurthy.

Q. How were the fractures missed by you

A I looked for fracture of the tibia right and could not detect any. There was contusion of the right hand & I could not elicit signs of fracture. He was able to stand but not walk

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HELA(HI)

Memo No. 26376 HI/55-2 Health Sy 7-7-55

M.M.S. — Dr E. A. Krishnamoorthy
Asst Surgeon, Govt Hospl, Puttur
South Kanara Dt — Report again.

Ref From the D.M.S., No. 26738-E1/55,
d. 6-6-55.

The Govt agree with the D.M.S. that no further action need be taken in the matter.

8/ 6.7.55

VR 7-7-55

Confdl

DY 7/7

p.5 cf

To The D.M.S.

Ord in 8C 11/7/55

H.E.L.A.(H.I) Dept.

C.No.26376 H.I/55.

Sub: Madras Medical Service - Dr. E.A. Krishnamoorthy, Asst. Surgeon, Govt. Hospital, Puttur, South Kanara Dist - Report against

Ref: From Sri K. Venkataramana Gowda, M.L.A. letter dated 12-3-1955.
From the D.M.S. No. 26738-E1/55, dated 6-6-1955.

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In March 1955, Sri K. Venkataramana Gowda, M.L.A., forwarded a copy of the report that was made in one of the local daily papers of the South Kanara District, regarding an incident that occurred in the Govt. Hospital, Puttur. It was alleged in that report that one Sri Veerappa Gowda who was brought to the Govt. Hospital, Puttur, for treatment of a broken leg and with other injuries, was not given proper treatment by the Medical Man (Dr. E.A. Krishnamoorthy) of the Hospital with the result that the patient had to be taken to the Govt. Wenlock Hospital, Mangalore, for treatment. The translation of the report referred to which appeared in Kanarese, will be found on pp.7-8 c.f. In bringing this to the notice of the Minister for Health, Sri K. Venkataramana Gowda stated that allegations against Dr. Krishnamoorthy, Asst. Surgeon in the Govt. Hospital, Puttur, have been brought to notice by the local public and that serious dissatisfaction has been expressed in regard to his attention to patients. He, therefore, expressed the view that it was highly desirable to ~~quit~~ change the Medical Officer from the post and post some one who will be interested in the welfare of the patients and asked for immediate steps to be taken in the matter. M.(H.)wanted a report to be called for in the matter. The matter was accordingly referred to the D.M.S. for a report. The D.M.S. has now forwarded the report in the matter. The letter of the D.M.S. with its enclosures on pp. 5-6 c.f. may be perused. It may be seen therefrom that according

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6/7

to the opinion of the Dist.Medical Officer, South Kanara and the D.M.S., ~~that~~ the case ~~reported~~ is not one of negligence but of missing the proper diagnosis. The D.M.S. has reported that he has warned the Medical Officer to be careful in examining the patients and not to give room for such complaints in the future. He considers that no further action is called for in the matter. It is for orders whether the view of the D.M.S. in the matter may be accepted.

27-6-55

May be circulated to M.(H.).

27.6.55

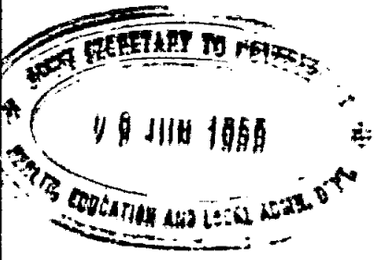
25.6.55

VR
27-6-55

J.S.

28.6.55

M (H) ~~absence~~ 29/6



The draft Memo. below is submitted for approval

6.7.55

VR
7-7-55